

STAT

CD NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 5 Apr 1949

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Chinese

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANINGS OF ESPIONAGE ACT 80 U. S. C. 3161 AND 32. AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Ta-kung-pao. (Information requested.)

LAND REFORM IN NINGSLA

The Ningsia authorities are promoting a land reform plan along the following lines:

1. Limited ownership -- Ownership of agricultural land shall be limited to 40 mou for families of five members or less, 80 mou for families of six to ten members, with 4 mou allowed for each person above ten. Holdings above this must be sold at controlled prices computed in kind.

2. Prices -- First class land, 266 pounds and one peck of rice or wheat per mou; second class land, 133 pounds and 5 pecks; third class land, 133 pounds and 5 Chinese pints.

3. Terms and conditions -- To be decided on in a public meeting of the local agriculturists.

Payments may be spread over 15 years and the annual payment made within 2 months after harvest. Delinquencies of over 2 months shall result in addition of 2 percent interest, and delinquencies of over one year shall entitle the original owner to ask the authorities for a resale.

4. Classes to benefit -- Renters, farm laborers, veterans able to work the land and their families, and agricultural families with land insufficient for their support.

5. Improvements -- Buildings, woods and other improvements shall be paid for as extras by the purchaser.

6. Conditions of occupation -- Purchasers must cultivate such land themselves and may not rent it to others or abandon it. Where parcels of land purchased are separated and too small for economical operation the authorities shall endeavor to arrange such transfers as

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION: **RESTRICTED**

[illegible]

RESTRICTED

STAT

will bring one purchaser's holdings into a contiguous piece.

7. Unoccupied lands -- Redistributed lands not occupied and public lands may be opened by the authorities for collective cultivation to provide labor and insure production.

8. Capital -- For agricultural operations silver shall be employed as the medium of exchange. Interest normally shall be at the rate of 2 percent per annum and in no case shall it exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ percent. Interest may not be compounded. Loans may be guaranteed by the local Pao-Chia chiefs, or agricultural products other than grain may be used as collateral. Beneficiaries of the land distribution plan who find themselves unable to pay off loans shall have the land reclaimed from them for redistribution. Animals, ground, or buildings shall not be mortgaged for loans. Loan cooperatives should be organized in various localities. Financial authorities should make funds available for those who fulfill conditions of land redistribution. Veterans should be given special facilities for loans. Low-interest loans shall not be made by authorities to commercial enterprises lest they loan said funds to agriculturists at higher rates. Neither commercial houses nor civil servants may make loans to farmers at high rates.

9. Agricultural labor -- In order that all may produce and have an opportunity to produce, all able-bodied persons shall work in productive enterprises. The wilfully idle shall be turned over to the hsien authorities for correction or employment in public agricultural enterprises. No agriculturist shall hire labor unless his males are in military service or physically incapacitated. The ability of families to work the land shall be taken into account in the redistribution program.

10. Farm animals -- Each agriculturist should have at least one draft animal and may not freely dispose of it or mortgage it. Agriculturists should be encouraged to raise animals to provide sufficient power for their operations, but all such animals shall be registered with the authorities, who should take care to prevent diversion of agricultural land to grazing land. Any agriculturist who has more animals than needed for his own operation should dispose of them at controlled prices in order that others may have enough to use. Animals and equipment on lands at the time of redistribution should go with the land at controlled prices.

All lands in process of redistribution under these regulations, and public lands, not under cultivation, should be operated by the authorities to ensure sufficient production and labor for all.

The guiding principle of the reform plan is that each person should be willing and have the opportunity to live by his own efforts.

- E N D -

- 2 -

RESTRICTED